

For Immediate Release

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## Speed limit law for gravel roads gets Senate nod

Bill to designate control headed to House for concurrence

The Michigan Senate today approved legislation allowing local governments to oversee changes in speed limits on gravel roads. Senate Bill 248 re-evaluates the speed limit law and allows speed signs posted before Nov. 9, 2006 to remain intact.

Sens. Mike Bishop and Nancy Cassis worked with Reps. Jim Marleau and John Stakoe to provide an open dialogue with local officials, the State Police and county road commissions to gain their input on the issue.

"I'm pleased we could come to a consensus on this issue," said Bishop, R-Rochester. "The bottom line is, state government should not dictate local speed limits. Residents and local governments are always in the best position to determine what is safe for their families. I look forward to the governor's swift approval of this legislation."

The bill provides "cleanup" language to amend a November law that created a new method of setting speed limits based on access points and a measurement of population density.

"Local officials and residents are the best people to make speed limit decisions for their gravel and dirt roads," said Cassis, R-Novi. "This measure keeps control of speed limits in the hands of the community to help ensure our streets and roads are safe."

SB 248 will return to the House for concurrence. If approved, it will then head to the governor for her signature.